

H Y M N S

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H Y M N S



SUNDAY-SCHOOLS, YOUTH,
AND CHILDREN.

✓✓
Methodist Episcopal
Church

New-York:

PUBLISHED BY CARLTON & PHILLIPS,

200 MULBERRY-STREET.


1852.

Ellen *and*
the *Lyons*

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1849,

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PREFACE.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS are the acknowledged nurseries of the Church of Christ. In them the children of the Church should be taught the songs of Zion. Hitherto both Sunday-schools and churches have been embarrassed for lack of a Hymn-Book which they might use in common. Sunday-school Hymn-Books have lacked variety, and church Hymn-Books have been deficient in hymns adapted to Sunday-schools. A two-fold expenditure, and a wide dissimilarity between the Hymn-Books of Sunday-schools and those of the congregations in which they worshipped, were among the results of using both classes of books.

The desideratum was a church Hymn-Book that should embrace a sufficient number of children's hymns for Sunday-school purposes, and a Sunday-school Hymn-Book that might be purchased either bound with the standard Hymn-Book of the Church, or separately in a cheap form.

The following collection of hymns is designed to secure both these objects. Published as a Supplement to the Church Hymn-Book, it renders that volume complete, and more perfect in its adaptation to the use of Sunday-schools than any other extant. Published separately, it supplies, at the least possible expense, nearly all the choice hymns

of our language, that are peculiarly suited to the capacities of the young and the wants of Sunday-schools. In either form the arrangement is the same, and the child who has the cheap Sunday-school Hymn-Book has the authorized Supplement of the Church Hymn-Book, and is thus far prepared to sing with the congregation. It is to be hoped, however, that every child will, sooner or later, possess the Hymn-Book of the Church, including the Supplement, and thus be furnished at once for domestic and public worship in all their forms.

It is due to those whom we would train up for God, that their lips should be early taught to show forth his praise. Being encouraged from childhood to join in public acts of devotion, their hearts will be sweetly and powerfully attracted to the cross, while their minds will be imbued with the saving principles of religious truth. Thus the tender associations of early life may be made to contribute to the piety of mature years, and to the sacred consolations of hoary age.

Thus, too, the Church of Christ may be established, ever having in her children the earnest of her extension, and the pledge of her perpetuity.

At a joint meeting of the Editors and Book Committee, the duty of preparing this Supplement was assigned to the Editor of Sunday-school publications. His labour has received the official sanction of the bishops.

New-York, 1849.

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H Y M N S .

EARLY PIETY—INVITATIONS.

1

C. M.

O come, and let us worship.

COME, let us join the hosts above,
Now in our youthful days ;
Remember our Creator's love,
And lisp our Father's praise.

2 His majesty will not despise
The day of feeble things :
Grateful the songs of children rise,
And please the King of kings.

3 He loves to be remember'd thus,
And honour'd for his grace ;
Out of the mouths of babes like us,
His wisdom perfects praise.

4 Glory to God, and praise, and power,
Honour and thanks be given !
Children and cherubim adore
The Lord of earth and heaven.

2

C. M.

Christ's invitation.

OUR Saviour bids the children come ;
He bids us come to Him ;
And, as in other days, he spreads
His arms to take us in.

8 EARLY PIETY—INVITATIONS.

- 2 Forever blessed be his name ;
No earthly love like his !
O may it draw our hearts to him,
And to the world of bliss !
3 There may we come at last, to sing
In nobler strains his praise ;
And join the little ones, who stand
Before our Father's face.

3

S. M.

Come to Jesus.

- COME to the mercy-seat—
Come to the place of prayer ;
Come, little children, to His feet,
In whom ye live and are !
2 Come to your God in prayer—
Come to your Saviour now—
While youthful skies are bright and fair,
And health is on your brow.
3 Come in the name of Him
Who all your sorrows bore—
Who ever lives to pardon sin,
And will be sought by prayer.

MOTIVES TO EARLY PIETY.

4

C. M.

I am to live forever.

- THE sun that lights the world shall fade,
The stars shall pass away ;
But I, a child, immortal made,
Shall witness their decay.
2 Yes, I shall live when they are dead,
Though now so bright they shine ;
When earth, and all it holds, are fled,
Eternity is mine.

3 For I shall never, never die,
While God himself remains;
But either live in heaven on high,
Or bound in hell in chains.

4 If heaven and hell ne'er pass away,
To Christ O let me flee;
If pain be hard for one short day,
What must *forever* be!

5

C. M.

Thou, God, seest me.

ALMIGHTY God, thy piercing eye
Strikes through the shades of night,
And our most secret actions lie
All open to thy sight.

2 There's not a sin that we commit,
Nor wicked word we say,
But in thy dreadful book 'tis writ,
Against the judgment-day.

3 And must the crimes that I have done
Be read and publish'd there?
Be all exposed before the sun,
While men and angels hear?

4 Lord, at thy foot ashamed I lie;
Upward I dare not look;
Pardon my sins before I die,
And blot them from thy book.

6

L. M.

Death approaches.

THERE is an hour when I must die,
Nor do I know how soon 'twill come,
A thousand children, young as I,
Are call'd by death to hear their doom.

2 Let me improve the hours I have,
Before the day of grace is fled;
There's no repentance in the grave,
Nor pardon offer'd to the dead.

3 Just as a tree cut down, that fell
 To north or southward, there it lies;
 So man departs to heaven or hell,
 Fix'd in the state wherein he dies.

7

C. M.

Life a summer's day.

THIS life is but a summer's day
 Of shadows and of light,
 Its brightest sunbeams pass away,
 And soon give place to night.
 Fair childhood is the early dawn,
 And youth the morning gay;
 Manhood's the noon so quickly gone,
 And age the evening ray.

2 This life was given us to prepare
 For that which is to come;
 O may I gain admittance there,
 And find a heavenly home!
 And will the Lord my sins forgive
 Through his redeeming love,
 And bid me to his glory live,
 And write my name above?

8

S. M.

Heaven and hell.

THERE is beyond the sky
 A heaven of joy and love;
 And holy children, when they die,
 Go to that world above.

2 There is a dreadful hell,
 And everlasting pains;
 There sinners must with devils dwell,
 In darkness, fire, and chains.

3 Can such a child as I
 Escape this awful end?
 And may I hope, whene'er I die,
 I shall to heaven ascend?

4 Then will I read and pray,
While I have life and breath ;
Lest I should be cut off to-day,
And sent to' eternal death.

9

C. M.

Jesus a Shepherd.
SEE the kind Shepherd, Jesus, stands,
And calls his sheep by name ;
Gathers the feeble in his arms,
And feeds each tender lamb.

2 He'll lead us to the heavenly streams
Where living waters flow ;
And guide us to the fruitful fields
Where trees of knowledge grow.

3 When, wand'ring from the fold, we leave
The straight and narrow way,
Our faithful Shepherd still is near
To guide us when we stray.

4 The feeblest lamb amidst the flock
Shall be the Shepherd's care ;
While folded in our Saviour's arms,
We're safe from every snare.

10

6th P. M. 6 lines 7s.

Jesus a Refuge.

LITTLE children, stop and think ;
Turn away from ruin's brink ;
Shun the wicked liar's path ;
Fly from scenes of strife and wrath ;
Read with prayer the holy Word ;
Follow Jesus Christ the Lord.

2 Jesus is the Christian's rock ;
He will safely guide his flock ;
In his arms the lambs will bear ;
Children, seek your refuge there ;
Of your Saviour stop and think ;
Fly to Him from ruin's brink !

12 BLESSINGS OF EARLY PIETY.

11

5th P. M. 4 lines 7s.

Shortness of time.

SWIFT the moments fly away—
First the hour and then the day,
Next the week, the month, the year,
Steal away, and disappear.

2 Time is ever on the wing,
While I speak, or think, or sing!
Whether working or at play,
Time is rolling fast away!

3 Think, my soul! awake and see
What will soon become of thee!
Whither tending, canst thou tell,—
Up to heaven, or down to hell?

4 Jesus, I would humbly pray,
Guide and keep me in the way;
Every gift and grace bestow;
Wean my heart from things below.

BLESSINGS OF EARLY PIETY.

12

C. M

Youth devoted to God.

HAPPY the child whose tender years
Receive instruction well;
Who hates the sinner's path, and fears
The road that leads to hell.

2 'T will save us from a thousand snares
To seek religion young;
Grace will preserve our foll'wing years,
And make our virtue strong.

3 To thee, Almighty God, to thee
Our childhood we resign;

'T will please us to look back and see
That our whole lives were thine.

4 Let the sweet work of prayer and praise
Employ our youngest breath ;
Thus we're prepared for longer days,
Or fit for early death. ●

13

5th P. M. 4 lines 7a.

Religion.

'TIS religion that can give
Sweetest pleasures while we live ;
'Tis religion must supply
Solid comforts when we die.

2 After death its joys will be
Lasting as eternity :
Let me then make God my friend,
And on all his ways attend.

14

8th P. M. 87, 87, 47.

Rewards of early piety.

GOD has said—"Forever blessed
Those who seek me in their youth—
They shall find the path of wisdom,
And the narrow way of truth :"
Guide us, Saviour,
In the narrow way of truth.

2 Be our strength, for we are weakness ;
Be our wisdom and our guide ;
May we walk in love and meekness,
Nearer to our Saviour's side :
Naught can harm us,
While we thus in thee abide.

3 Thus, when evening shades shall gather,
We may turn our tearless eye
To the dwelling of our Father,
To our home beyond the sky—
Gently passing
To the happy land on high.

14 BLESSINGS OF EARLY PIETY.

15

6th P. M. 6 lines 7a.

Holy children.

HOLY children read and pray,
Love God's holy word and day;
Fly from sin and seek his grace,
Learn his will, and Christ embrace;
They are humble, meek, and mild;
Lord, make me a holy child.

2 Holy children, when they die,
Soar to Christ above the sky;
Take their seats around his throne,
Make his praise forever known:
Pleasing thought! may I be styled,
Now, the Saviour's holy child!

16

9th P. M. 87, 87.

God will be our guide.

BLEST, beyond all earthly blessing,
Is the child whose tender youth,
In the Lord a guide possessing,
Walks in paths of light and truth.

2 He will govern those who love him:
Those who walk in faith and fear,
In all danger still shall prove him
Gracious, kind, and ever near.

3 Heavenly Father, let us prove thee,
An all-wise, protecting Friend!
Make us fear thee, make us love thee,
Constant, to our latest end!

PRIVILEGES AND DUTIES OF THE YOUNG.

17

L. M

Privileges and duties of the young.

WE are but young—yet we may sing
The praises of our heavenly King;
He made the earth, the sea, the sky,
And all the starry worlds on high.

2 We are but young—yet we must die;
Perhaps our latter end is nigh;
Lord, may we early seek thy grace,
And find in Christ a hiding-place.

3 We are but young—we need a guide;
Jesus, in thee we would confide;
O lead us in the path of truth,
Protect and bless our helpless youth.

4 We are but young—yet God has shed
Unnumber'd blessings on our head;
Then let our youth and riper days
Be all devoted to his praise.

18

7th P. M. 8 lines 7s

God's blessings on children.

HAPPY child, whom God doth aid!
H God our souls and bodies made;
God on us in gracious showers
Blessings every moment pours:
Compasses with angel bands,
Bids them bear us in their hands;
Parents, friends, 'twas God bestow'd;
Life and all descend from God.

2 He this flowery carpet spread,
 Made the earth on which we tread ;
 God refreshes in the air,
 Covers with the clothes we wear :
 Feeds us with the food we eat,
 Cheers us by his light and heat,
 Makes his sun on us to shine ;
 All our blessings are divine.

3 Man, we for his kindness love ;
 How much more our God above !
 Give him then, and ever give,
 Thanks for all that we receive :
 Worthy thou, our heavenly Lord,
 To be honour'd and adored :
 God of all-creating grace,
 Take the everlasting praise.

19

10th P. M. 8 lines 8s.

Self-consecration.

O JESUS, delight of my soul,
 My Saviour, my Shepherd divine,
 I yield to thy blessed control :
 My body and spirit are thine :
 Thy love I can never deserve,
 That bids me be happy in thee ;
 My God and my King I will serve,
 Whose favour is heaven to me.

2 How can I thy goodness repay,
 By nature so weak and defiled ?
 Myself I have given away ;
 O call me thine own blessed child :
 And art thou my Father above ?
 Will Jesus abide in my heart ?
 O bind me so fast with thy love,
 That I never from thee shall depart.

Y O U T H .

20

S. M.

Prayer for youth.

GREAT God ! with heart and tongue,
For all our youth we pray ;
O may they learn, while they are young,
To walk in wisdom's way !

2 Now, in their early days,
Teach them thy will to know ;

O God, thy sanctifying grace
On every heart bestow !

3 Make their unguarded youth
The object of thy care ;

Cause them to choose the way of truth,
And fly from every snare.

4 Their hearts, to folly prone,
Renew by power divine ;
Unite them to thyself alone,
And make them wholly thine.

5 Lord, let thy sacred word
Their warmest thoughts employ ;
There let them daily find the road
Which leads to endless joy.

21

L. M.

The youth's supplication.

GUARDIAN of souls, throughout my days
Inspire my heart, and keep my ways ;
And let thy kindest love prevail,
Though foes unite, and friends all fail.

2 By night and day, where'er I be,
Be thou, my Saviour, near to me ;
In health or pain, in rest or toil,
Give me thy kind, approving smile.

3 When flesh and sinking nature fail,
Then let sustaining grace prevail;
Its holy influence impart,
To melt and overflow my heart.

4 Or slowly wasting to the dust,
Be thou my firm support and trust;
Nor let death's gloomy shadows be
The slightest terror, Lord, to me.

5 In cheerful hope my eyelids close,
And give me calm and sweet repose
My spirit from its prison free,
To reign in heaven, O Lord, with thee.

22

L. M

Prayer offered by youth.

LORD, we are young—thy help we need.
For various foes infest our way;
Be thou to us a friend indeed,
Nor let us from thy precepts stray.

2 From wayward paths our feet restore,
And keep our tongues from speaking guile;
And O, preserve us evermore
From sin's seducing, luring smile.

3 Our youthful hearts with grace inspire;
To thee our every power incline;
And may the pure celestial fire,
Within our bosoms ever shine.

4 O let the morning of our days
To thee, and thee alone, be given;
Increase our love, approve our ways,
And guide us safely into heaven.

PRAYER AND PRAISE.

23

C. M.

The tribute and prayer of children.

ALMIGHTY Father, heavenly King!
Who rul'st the world above;
Accept the tribute children bring
Of gratitude and love.

2 To thee, each morning, when we rise,
Our early vows we pay;
And ere the night hath closed our eyes,
We thank thee for the day.

3 Our Saviour, ever good and kind,
To us his word hath given;
That children, such as we, may find
The path that leads to heaven.

4 O Lord, extend thy gracious hand,
To guide our erring youth;
And lead us to that blissful land
Where dwells eternal truth.

24

5th P. M. 4 lines 7s.

Prayer for grace.

JESUS, let a little child
Humbly supplicate thy throne;
Speak to me in accents mild,
O thou great and holy One!

2 Fill my youthful heart with grace,
Make it thy beloved abode;
Show thy reconciling face,
O my Father and my God!

3 May I early learn thy ways,
Early know thy power and love;
Then devote to thee my days,
Till I am removed above.

25

5th P. M. 4 lines 7s.

Prayer for grace.

JESUS Christ, the Truth, the Way,
In thy name we meet to-day—
Meet to read thy gracious word—
Meet to hear of Christ the Lord.

2 From this hour may we, anew,
Seek thy holy will to do—
Give to thee each youthful heart,
And from thee no more depart!

26

5th P. M. 4 lines 7s.

Jesus a Guide.

SHEPHERD of thy little flock,
Lead us to the shadowing rock:
Where the richest pastures grow,
Where the living waters flow.

2 By that pure and silent stream,
Shelter'd from the scorching beam,
Shepherd, Saviour, Guardian, Guide,
Keep us ever near thy side!

27

13th P. M. 10, 10, 11, 11.

Praise to Jesus.

LET children proclaim their Saviour and King;
To Jesus's name hosannas we sing:
Our best adoration to Jesus we give,
Who purchased salvation that we may receive.

2 The meek Lamb of God from heaven came down,
To ransom with blood and make us his own;
He patiently suffer'd, our souls to redeem;
Let songs then be offer'd to Jesus's Name.

3 To Him let us give our earliest days,
And thankfully live to publish his praise:
Our lives shall confess him who came from above;
Our tongues ever bless him, and tell of his love.

28

5th P. M. 4 lines 7s.

Children may pray to God.

POOR and needy though I be,
 God my Maker cares for me;
 Gives me clothing, shelter, food,
 Gives me all I have of good.

2 He will listen when I pray,
 He is with me night and day;
 When I sleep and when I wake,
 Keeps me safe for Jesus' sake.

3 He who reigns above the sky
 Once became as poor as I;
 He whose blood for me was shed,
 Had not where to lay his head!

4 Though I labour here awhile,
 He will bless me with his smile;
 And when this short life is past,
 I shall rest with Him at last.

29

L. M.

Against evil words.

ALMIGHTY God, to thee I cry,
 Assist a child's infirmity;
 Nor let me with my lips draw nigh,
 While my heart wanders far from thee.

2 Ah! never let me speak a word
 But what with all my soul I mean;
 Or lie to thee, thou glorious Lord,
 By whom my every thought is seen.

3 But with submissive lowliness
 Should I approach thy glorious throne;
 How can I hope by words to please,
 To please a God I have not known?

4 I know not what to do or say,
 Till thy bless'd Spirit I receive,
 And Jesus teaches me to pray,
 And Jesus teaches me to live.

30

9th P. M. 87, 87

Adoration.

MAY I love thee and adore thee,
 O thou bleeding, dying Lamb;
 Teach my heart to bow before thee,
 Kindle there a sacred flame.

2 Teach me what I am by nature,
 How to lift my thoughts on high;
 Teach me, O thou great Creator!
 How to live, and how to die!

31

P. M. 86, 868

Glory to God in the highest

A ROUND the throne of God in heaven,
 Thousands of children stand;
 Children whose sins are all forgiven,
 A holy, happy band—
 Singing glory, glory, glory.

2 What brought them to that world above,
 That heaven so bright and fair—
 Where all is peace, and joy, and love?—
 How came those children there,
 Singing glory, glory, glory?

3 Because the Saviour shed his blood
 To wash away their sin;
 Bathed in that pure and precious flood,
 Behold them white and clean—
 Singing glory, glory, glory.

4 On earth they sought their Saviour's grace
 On earth they loved his name;
 So now they see his blessed face,
 And stand before the Lamb—
 Singing glory, glory, glory.

32

9th P. M. 87, 87.

Jesus our strength.

JESUS, Lord of life and glory,
 Friend of children, hear our lays;
 Humbly would our souls adore thee,
 Sing thy name in hymns of praise.

2 O what debtors to thy kindness
 Are we, God of boundless love!
 Thousands wander on in blindness,
 Strangers to the light above.

3 Jesus, on thine arm relying,
 We would tread this earthly vale;
 Be our life when we are dying;
 Be our strength, when strength shall fail.

4 Let us mount the hills of glory,
 Far from sins, and woes, and pains;
 There, in perfect songs, adore thee,
 And in everlasting strains.

THE BIBLE.

33

27th P. M. 4 lines 11s.

The Bible, the word of truth.

THE Bible—the Bible! more precious than gold
 The hopes and the glories its pages unfold;
 It speaks of salvation—wide opens the door—
 Its offers are free to the rich and the poor.

2 The Bible—the Bible! blest volume of truth,
 How sweetly it smiles on the season of youth;
 It bids us seek early the “Pearl of great price,”
 Ere the heart is enslaved in the bondage of vice.

3 The Bible—the Bible! the valleys shall ring,
 And hill-tops re-echo the notes that we sing;
 Our banners, inscribed with its precepts and rules,
 Shall long wave in triumph, the joy of our schools.

34

P. M. 76, 86, 86, 86

We'll not give up the Bible.

WE'LL not give up the Bible,
 God's holy book of truth ;
 The blessed staff of hoary age,
 The guide of early youth :
 The sun that sheds a glorious light
 O'er every dreary road ;
 The voice that speaks a Saviour's love,
 And calls us home to God.

2 We'll not give up the Bible,
 For pleasure or for pain ;
 We'll buy the truth, and sell it not,
 For all that we might gain :
 Though man should try to take our prize
 By guile or cruel might ;
 We'll suffer all that man could do,
 And God defend the right !

3 We'll not give up the Bible,
 But spread it far and wide,
 Until its saving voice be heard
 Beyond the rolling tide :
 Till all shall know its gracious power,
 And, with one voice and heart,
 Resolve, that from God's sacred word,
We'll never, never part !

35

5th P. M. 4 lines 7a

The precious Bible,

HOLY Bible ! book divine !
 Precious treasure ! thou art mine !
 Mine to tell me whence I came ;
 Mine, to teach me what I am.

2 Mine, to chide me when I rove ;
 Mine, to show a Saviour's love ;
 Mine art thou to guide my feet,
 Mine, to judge, condemn, acquit.

3 Mine, to comfort in distress,
If the Holy Spirit bless;
Mine, to show by living faith
Man can triumph over death.

4 Mine, to tell of joys to come,
And the rebel sinner's doom;
O thou precious book divine!
Precious treasure! thou art mine!

36

6th P. M. 6 lines 7a.

Knowledge of the Scriptures.

O THAT I, like Timothy,
Might the Holy Scriptures know,
From mine early infancy,
Till for God mature I grow!
Made unto salvation wise,
Ready for the glorious prize!

2 Jesus, all-redeeming Lord,
Full of truth, and full of grace,
Make me understand thy word;
Teach me in my youthful days
Wonders in thy word to see,
Wise through faith which is in thee.

3 Open thou mine eyes of faith;
Open now the book of God;
Show me here the sacred path,
Leading to thy blest abode;
Wisdom from above impart,
Speak the meaning to my heart.

THE SABBATH.

37

L. M

The holy Sabbath.

THIS day belongs to God alone;
He chose the Sabbath for his own;
And we must neither work nor play,
Because it is God's holy day.

2 'Tis well to have one day in seven,
That we may learn the way to heaven ;
Then let us spend it as we should,
In serving God and growing good.

3 We ought, to-day, to learn and seek
What we may think of all the week ;
And be the better every day,
For what we hear our teachers say.

4 And every Sabbath should be past,
As if we knew it were our last :
What would the dying sinner give
To have one Sabbath more to live !

38

27th P. M. 4 lines 11s.

How sweet is the Sabbath !

HOW sweet is the Sabbath, the morning of rest,
The day of the week which I ought to love best,
The morning the Saviour arose from the tomb,
And took from the grave all its terror and gloom.

2 O let me be thoughtful and prayerful to-day,
And not spend a moment in trifling or play ;
Rememb'ring these seasons were graciously given
To teach me to seek, and prepare me for, heaven.

3 In the house of my God, in his presence and fear,
While I worship to-day may my heart be sincere ;
In the school while I learn, may I listen with care,
And be grateful to those who watch over me there.

4 Instruct me, my Saviour, for thine would I be,
Nor am I too young to be noticed by thee ;
Renew all my heart, keep me firm in thy ways,
I would love thee, and serve thee, and give thee
the praise.

39

5th P. M. 4 lines 7s.

Welcome, day of rest.

WELCOME, welcome, day of rest,
 To the world in kindness given
 Welcome to this humble breast,
 As the beaming light from heaven.

2 Day of soft and sweet repose,
 Gently now thy moments run,
 As the peaceful streamlet flows,
 Radiant with a summer's sun.

3 Day of tidings from the skies,
 Day of solemn praise and prayer,
 Day to make the simple wise,
 O how great thy blessings are!

4 Welcome, welcome, day of rest,
 With thy influence all divine;
 May thy hallow'd hours be blest
 To this feeble heart of mine.

40

33d P. M. 66, 66

Close of the Sabbath.

THE light of Sabbath eve
 Is fading fast away;
 What record will it leave,
 To crown the closing day?
 Is it a Sabbath spent,
 Of fruitless time destroy'd?
 Or have these moments lent,
 Been sacredly employ'd?

2 To waste these Sabbath hours,
 O may we never dare;
 Nor taint with thoughts of ours
 These sacred days of prayer:
 But may our Sabbaths here
 Inspire our hearts with love;
 And prove a foretaste clear
 Of that sweet rest above.

INFANT CLASSES AND LITTLE CHILDREN.

41

S. M.

Hymn for an infant class.

SAVIOUR, do thou appear,
Our Sabbath-school to bless ;
Give to our youthful hearts thy fear,
And perfect righteousness.

2 Thy boundless grace reveal,
And all our fears remove ;
And let our youthful spirits feel
The kindlings of thy love.

3 Subdue our hearts to thee,
And may our infant tongues
From all offence and guile be free,
And full of cheerful songs.

4 Call us each one by name,
Receive each child as thine ;
And O, regard our youthful claim,
With benefits divine.

42

5th P. M. 4 lines 7a.

An infant's prayer.

JESUS, Saviour, Son of God,
Who for me life's pathway trod,
Who for me became a child ;
Make me humble, meek, and mild.

2 I thy little lamb would be,
Jesus, I would follow thee ;
Samuel was thy child of old,
Take me, too, within thy fold.

3 Teach me how to pray to thee ;
Make me holy, heavenly :
Let me love what thou dost love ;
Let me live with thee above.

43

S. M.

The infant school.

WITHIN these walls be peace,
Love through our borders found,
In all our youthful palaces
Prosperity abound.

2 God scorns not humble things;
Here, though the proud despise,
The children of the King of kings
Are training for the skies.

44

P. M. 64, 64, 67, 64

The happy land.

THERE is a happy land,
Far, far away,—
Where saints in glory stand,
Bright, bright as day:
O how they sweetly sing,—
Worthy is our Saviour King;
Loud let his praises ring
Forever more.

2 Come to this happy land,
Come, come away;
Why will ye doubting stand?
Why still delay?
O we shall happy be,
When, from sin and sorrow free,
Lord, we shall live with thee,
Blest evermore.

3 Bright, in that happy land,
Beams every eye;
Kept by a Father's hand,
Love cannot die.
O, then, to glory run;
Be a crown and kingdom won;
And bright above the sun,
Reign evermore.

45

5th P. M. 4 lines 7s.

A little child's prayer.

GENTLE Jesus, meek and mild,
 Look upon a little child ;
 Pity my simplicity,
 Suffer me to come to thee.

2 Fain I would to thee be brought
 Gracious Lord, forbid it not :
 Give a little child a place
 In the kingdom of thy grace.

3 I shall then show forth thy praise,
 Serve thee all my happy days :
 Then the world shall always see
 Christ, the holy Child, in me.

46

P. M.

"Suffer the little ones to come unto Me."

I THINK, when I read that sweet story of old,
 When Jesus was here among men,
 How he call'd little children, as lambs to his fold,
 I should like to have been with him then.

2 I wish that his hands had been placed on my
 head,
 That his arms had been thrown around me,
 That I might have seen his kind look when he said,
 "Let the little ones come unto me."

3 Yet still to his footstool in prayer I may go,
 And ask for a share in his love ;
 And if I thus earnestly seek him below,
 I shall see him and hear him above :

4 In that beautiful place he has gone to prepare,
 For all who are wash'd and forgiven ;
 And many dear children are gathering there,
 "For of such is the kingdom of heaven."

47

9th P. M. 87, 87.

The lambs of Christ.

HUMBLE praises, holy Jesus,
 Infant voices raise to thee;
 In thy mercy, O receive us!
 Suffer us thy lambs to be.

2 Blessed Jesus, thou hast bidden
 Babes, like us, to come to thee;
 Though by thy disciples chidden,
 Thou didst tell them not to flee.

3 Saviour, condescend to feed us,
 Richly let thy mercy flow;
 Send thy Spirit, blessed Jesus;
 Light and life on us bestow.

48

6th P. M. 6 lines 7a.

Hosanna to Jesus.

CHILDREN of Jerusalem
 Sang the praise of Jesus' name;
 Children, too, of modern days
 Join to sing the Saviour's praise:
 Hark! while infant voices sing
 Loud hosannas to our King!

2 We are taught to love the Lord,
 We are taught to read his word;
 We are taught the way to heaven:
 Praise for all to God be given:
 Hark! while infant voices sing
 Loud hosannas to our King!

3 Parents, teachers, old and young,
 All unite to swell the song:
 Higher and yet higher rise,
 Till hosannas reach the skies:
 Hark! while infant voices sing
 Loud hosannas to our King!

49

P. M.

Infant praise and prayer.

HELP me to praise thy name
 While I am young ;
 Let me thy truth proclaim
 With my infant tongue :
 Angels from the skies
 Will look down with gladsome eyes,
 When thy praises rise,
 By infants sung.

2 Keep us in peace and joy
 Through childhood's days ;
 Help each little girl and boy
 To walk in thy ways :
 So shall we be free
 From the thorns of misery ;
 Heaven our home shall be,
 Thine all the praise.

50

P. M

The Lord's prayer.

OUR Father in heaven,
 We hallow thy name !
 May thy kingdom holy
 On earth be begun !
 O give to us daily
 Our portion of bread ;
 It is from thy bounty
 That all must be fed.

2 Forgive our transgressions,
 And teach us to know
 That humble compassion
 Which pardons each foe ;
 Keep us from temptation,
 From weakness and sin,
 And thine be the glory
 Forever—Amen.

51

8th P. M. 87, 87, 47.

Hallelujah.

MIGHTY God, while angels bless thee,
 May not infants lisp thy name?

Lord of men as well as angels,

Thou art every creature's theme!

Hallelujah,

Hallelujah, hallelujah, Amen!

2 Lord of every land and nation,

Ancient of eternal days,

Sounded through the wide creation,

Be thy just and lawful praise:

Hallelujah,

Hallelujah, hallelujah, Amen!

52

9th P. M. 87, 87.

Evening hymn.

JESUS, tender Shepherd, hear me,

Bless thy little lamb to-night;

Through the darkness be thou near me,

Keep me safe till morning light.

2 Through this day thy hand has led me,

And I thank thee for thy care;

Thou hast warm'd me, clothed, and fed me,

Listen to my evening prayer.

3 Let my sins be all forgiven,

Bless the friends I love so well;

Take me, when I die, to heaven,

Happy there, with thee to dwell.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

53

L. M.

The morning of life.

IN life's gay morn let children learn

To love the sacred place of prayer;

From sinful ways delight to turn,

And early pay their tribute there.

2 Let buoyant hearts harmonious blend
 As youthful lips are tuned to sing,
 And lofty strains of praise ascend
 To heaven's exalted, glorious King.

54

S. M.

Invitation.

COME, join our Sabbath song,
 On this the holy day;
 We know that angel harps above
 Unite to swell the lay.

2 Come to our Sabbath-school—
 Come to the place of prayer;
 Come, little boy and little girl,
 Our sacred pleasure share;

3 And in the house above,
 Not made with human hand,
 We'll sing at last the Sabbath song,
 In one unbroken band!

55

C. M.

Love for the Sunday-school.

I LOVE the Sabbath-school—the place
 My youthful feet have trod,
 Where I have heard of wisdom's ways,
 That lead to peace and God.

2 I love the Sabbath-school—'tis there
 The praise of God we sing,—
 'Tis there we bow the knee in prayer
 To God, our heavenly King.

3 I love the Sabbath-school—where we
 The Holy Bible read,—
 Which tells of Christ, who came to be
 A Saviour in our need.

4 O, that when life's few cares are past,
 Our teachers we may meet
 Upon the blissful plains, and cast
 Our crowns at Jesus' feet.

56

5th P. M. 4 lines 7s.

Thanks to God.

FATHER! from thy throne above,
 Smile upon us in thy love:
 Happy children of the free,
 Grateful songs would raise to thee.

2 Thanks for Sunday-schools so dear,
 Where we're taught thy word and fear,
 From that holy book of thine,
 Fill'd with precious truths divine.

3 Saviour! 'mid all earthly strife,
 Through the cares and ills of life,
 May the precepts thou hast given
 Guide us in the path to heaven.

57

C. M.

The Sabbath-school.

SWEET Sabbath-school, place dear to me,
 Where'er through life I roam,
 My heart will often turn to thee,
 My childhood's Sabbath home.

2 Within thy courts of Him I've heard
 Whose birth the angels sung,
 When o'er the shepherds fill'd with fear,
 The star of glory hung.

3 O holy place! where first we shed
 The penitential tear;
 Where youthful steps are taught to tread
 In paths of peace and prayer.

4 When all our wand'rings here shall cease,
 And cares of life shall end,
 In God's eternal Sabbath place
 May we our anthems blend.

58

L. M.

Opening of school.

ASSEMBLED in our school once more,
O Lord, thy blessing we implore;
We meet to read, and sing, and pray;
Be with us then through this thy day.

2 Our fervent prayer to thee ascends,
For parents, teachers, foes, and friends;
And when we in thy house appear,
Help us to worship in thy fear.

3 When we on earth shall meet no more,
May we above to glory soar;
And praise thee in more lofty strains,
Where one eternal Sabbath reigns.

59

S. M.

Morning hymn.

THIS morning, Lord, attend,
While we are bow'd in prayer;
And from thy glorious throne descend,
And in our midst appear.

2 Make this thy dwelling-place,
While we assembled stay;
Inspire each youthful soul with grace,
And wash our sins away.

3 O let this morning be
Devoted to thy ways:
And consecrate our school to thee,
And fill each heart with praise.

4 To child and teacher, Lord,
Be thy best favours given;
And may we all, with one accord,
Make sure our way to heaven.

60

L. M.

Opening hymn.

GREAT God! behold, before thy throne
A band of children lowly bend;
Thy face we seek, thy name we own,
And pray that thou wilt be our Friend.

2 Thy Holy Spirit's aid impart,
That he may teach us how to pray;
Make us sincere, and let each heart
Delight to tread in wisdom's way.

3 O let thy grace our souls renew,
And seal a sense of pardon there;
Teach us thy will to know and do,
And let us all thy image bear.

61

L. M.

A blessing sought upon the lesson.

O WRITE upon my mem'ry, Lord,
The texts and doctrines of thy word;
That I may break thy laws no more,
But love thee better than before!

2 With thoughts of Christ, and things divine,
Fill up this foolish heart of mine;
That, hoping pardon through his blood,
I may lie down and wake with God.

62

S. M.

Parting.

ONCE more, before we part,
We'll bless the Saviour's name;
Record his mercies, every heart;
Sing, every tongue, the same.

2 May we receive his word,
And feed thereon and grow;
Go on to seek, and know the Lord,
And practise what we know.

ANNIVERSARIES.

63

C. M.

Anniversary hymn.

WE now to Christ, the Saviour King,
Our annual tribute pay;
In sweet hosannas here we sing,
For his life-cheering ray:
O, let the heavenly chorus rise,
On this our festal day;
And wake the concord of the skies
With this our joyous lay.

2 Another year has run its round,
Since last we gather'd here;
And still the precious gospel sound
Invites our list'ning ear:
But many Sabbath hours are gone,
Of kind instruction given;
O, may the lessons we have learn'd
Guide us to Christ and heaven.

64

5th P. M. 4 lines 7s.

Sabbath-school anniversary.

WELCOME to our festival,
Parents, teachers, children, all;
God has spared us through the year,
And in mercy brings us here.

2 All unite to praise our God,
For his grace on us bestow'd;
Hallow'd be the songs we raise—
Happy songs of grateful praise.

3 God, who dwells beyond the sky,
Turns on us a gracious eye;
Still prolongs our day of grace;
Gives us time to seek his face.

4 But while thus our hearts rejoice,
 We must hear his warning voice,—
 Seek the way of peace and truth,
 In the early days of youth.

65

8th P. M. 87, 87, 47.

A blessing sought for the Sunday-school.

THOU, who didst with love and blessing,
 Gather Zion's babes to thee;
 Still a Saviour's love expressing,
 Now the babes of Zion see;
 Bless the labours
 That would bring them up for thee.

2 Smile upon our weak endeavour,
 Vain, if thou thy smile deny;
 Let them rise, to live forever!
 Train, O! train them for the sky:
 Ne'er may Satan
 Plunder Zion's nursery.

3 Lord, with humble fervour bending,
 We thy blessing would entreat;
 Let thy Spirit, now descending,
 Make the toils of learning sweet;
 Straight to Zion
 Guide the young inquirer's feet.

MISSIONARY.

66

5th P. M. 4 lines 7s.

Meeting for charity.

LITTLE rain-drops feed the rill;
 Rills to meet the brooklet glide;
 Brooks the broader rivers fill;
 Rivers swell the ocean's tide.

2 So the dew-drops gather'd here,
 Mites from willing childhood's hand,
 Shall those streams of bounty cheer
 That with greenness clothe the land.

3 With that sea of love shall blend
 Which the gospel's grace doth pour,
 And the name of Jesus send
 E'en to earth's remotest shore.

67

7th P. M. 8 lines 7s.

Children at the gate of heaven.

LITTLE travellers, Zionward,
 Each one entering into rest,
 In the kingdom of your Lord,
 In the mansions of the blest;
 There, to welcome, Jesus waits,
 Gives the crowns his followers win—
 Lift your heads, ye golden gates!
 Let the little travellers in!

2 Who are they whose little feet,
 Pacing life's dark journey through,
 Now have reach'd that heavenly seat,
 They had ever kept in view?
 "I from Greenland's frozen land;"
 "I from India's sultry plain;"
 "I from Afric's barren sand;"
 "I from islands of the main."

3 "All our earthly journey past,
 Every tear and pain gone by,
 Here together met at last,
 At the portal of the sky!
 Each the welcome 'COME' awaits,
 Conqu'rors over death and sin!"—
 Lift your heads, ye golden gates!
 Let the little travellers in!

68

5th P. M. 4 lines 7s.

The heathen mother.

SEE that heathen mother stand
Where the sacred currents flow,
With her own maternal hand
'Mid the waves her infant throw.

2 Hark! I hear the piteous scream!
Frightful monsters seize their prey;
Or the dark and bloody stream
Bears the struggling child away.

3 Fainter now, and fainter still,
Breaks the cry upon the ear;
But the mother's heart is steel;
She, unmoved, that cry can hear!

4 Send, O send the Bible there,
Let its precepts reach her heart;
She may then her children spare—
Act the mother's tender part.

69

● L. M.

Missionary meeting.

JESUS! in Christian love we meet,
To bring an off'ring to thy feet;
All in their hand some talent bear,
And lay it humbly, freely there.

2 Yes, for thy gospel's cause, with joy,
Our hands, our hearts, we would employ:
O smile upon us, from above,
That bless'd may be our work of love.

3 Then let us feel thy presence near,
Whilst met in holy union here:
Our zeal, our love, do thou increase,
And let us reap the fruits of peace.

DEATH AND FUNERALS.

70

L. M

Death of a scholar.

A MOURNING class, a vacant seat,
Tell us that one we loved to meet,
Will join our youthful throng no more
Till all these changing scenes are o'er.

2 No more that voice we loved to hear
Shall fill *her* teacher's list'ning ear;
No more its tones shall join to swell
The songs that of a Saviour tell.

3 That welcome face, that sparkling eye
And sprightly form, must buried lie
Deep in the cold and silent gloom,
The rayless night, that fills the tomb.

4 God tells us, by this mournful death,
How vain and fleeting is our breath,
And bids our souls prepare to meet
The trial of his judgment-seat.

71

8th P. M. 87, 87, 47

Death of a scholar.

WHERE we oft have met in gladness,
On the holy Sabbath-day,
Slowly now, with tearful sadness,
Each pursues his lonely way,
Tears are falling—
On this holy Sabbath-day.

2 One we loved has left our number
For the dark and silent tomb;
Closed *his* eyes in deathless slumber—
Faded in *his* early bloom:
Hear us, Saviour,—
Thou hast blest the lonely tomb.

3 Through its dark and narrow portal
 Once they bore thee to thy rest;
 There a ray of light immortal,
 Like a sunbeam from the west,
 Burst the shadows—
 And the grave thenceforth was blest.

4 By the light that thus was given
 To the darkness of the tomb—
 By the blessed light of heaven,
 Gilding scenes of earthly gloom,—
 Star of gladness,—
 All our night with joy illumine.

5 From our circle, little *brother*,
 Early hast thou pass'd away!
 But the angels say,—Another
 Joins our holy song to-day!
 Weep no longer—
 Join with them the sacred lay.

72

6th P. M. 6 lines 7a.

The early dead.

CHILDREN, like the early flower,
 Often droop and lose their bloom—
 Pass away in childhood's hour,
 To the cold and silent tomb—
 Bodies laid beneath the sod—
 Spirits gone away to God!

2 Oft along the busy street,
 Sad and tearful mourners go;
 Mothers for their children weep,
 Weep that death has laid them low.
 Nipp'd the buds before their bloom,
 Hid them in the silent tomb.

3 But the little ones who hear
 Kind instruction's warning voice,
 Turn to truth a willing ear,
 And in wisdom's ways rejoice ;
 Need not fear the spoiler's blow,
 Though he lay the spring-buds low !

4 God will gather them again ;
 In his garden they will grow,
 On that green and lovely plain,
 Where the crystal waters flow,
 Never more to lay their head
 Faintly on the cold earth-bed.

73

L. M.

Death of a teacher.

THE voice is hush'd—the gentle voice,
 That told us of a Saviour's love ;
 And made our youthful hearts rejoice,
 In hope of heaven, our home above.

2 The eye is dim, the loving eye,
 That beam'd so fondly on us here ;
 Seal'd up in death, the anxious sigh
 No more bedews it with a tear !

3 But in the land beyond the grave,
 That voice will swell in rapturous tone,
 The song to Him who died to save,
 And bring the weary trav'ler home.

4 That eye, with holy radiance bright,
 Shall kindle like the stars of even ;
 Like them shall pierce the shades of night,
 And sweetly shine on us from heaven.

5 That brow shall wear its glitt'ring crown,
 When sun and stars no more shall shine ;
 When death shall lay his sceptre down—
 The grave her empire shall resign.

6 Then let us weep as Jesus wept;
 Hallow'd by love each gentle sigh;
 Since in the grave our Saviour slept,
 The Christian need not fear to die.

74

9th P. M. 87, 87.

Funeral hymn.

SISTER, thou wast mild and lovely,
 Gentle as the summer breeze,
 Pleasant as the air of evening
 When it floats among the trees.

2 Peaceful be thy silent slumber,
 Peaceful in the grave so low:
 Thou no more wilt join our number,—
 Thou no more our songs shalt know.

3 Dearest *sister*, thou hast left us!
 Here thy loss we deeply feel;
 But 'tis God that hath bereft us,
 He can all our sorrow heal.

4 Yet again we hope to meet thee,
 When the day of life is fled,
 Then, in heaven, with joy to greet thee,
 Where no farewell tear is shed.

75

C. M.

At a funeral.

CALM on the bosom of thy God,
 Dear spirit, rest thee now;
 E'en while with ours thy footsteps trod,
 His seal was on thy brow.

2 Dust, to its narrow home beneath;
 Soul, to its rest on high;
 They that have seen thy look in death,
 No more may fear to die.

DOXOLOGIES.

76

5th P. M. 4 lines 7s.

GLORY to the Father give,
G God, in whom we move and live;
Children's prayers he deigns to hear,
Children's songs delight his ear.
2 Glory to the Son we bring,
Christ, our Prophet, Priest, and King;
Children, raise your sweetest strain
To the Lamb, for he was slain.
3 Glory to the Holy Ghost;
Be this day a pentecost!
Children's minds may he inspire,
Touch their tongues with holy fire.
4 Glory in the highest be
To the blessed Trinity,
For the Gospel from above,
For the word that "God is love."

77

L. M.

PRAISE ye the Lord, who kindly rules
And governs all our Sunday-schools;
Let children, with the cherub host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

78

C. M.

TO Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Who sweetly all agree,
To save a world of sinners lost,
Eternal glory be.

79

S. M.

GIVE to the Father praise,
G Give glory to the Son:
And to the Spirit of his grace
Be equal honour done.

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Where we oft have met in gladness..	<i>Mrs. Maxwell</i> 42
Within these walls be peace.....	<i>Unknown</i> 29

CATECHISM

OF THE

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

No. 1.

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P R E F A C E.

THE characteristics of this Catechism are, brevity, comprehensiveness, and systematic arrangement. It is not published as a child's Catechism merely, but as the CATECHISM OF THE CHURCH, including both young and old. The answers are generally short and the words easy; but short words have not been chosen in preference to longer ones deemed more appropriate.

While the language is studiously adapted to the comprehension of children, it is suitable to be retained in memory through life. Hence it is not proposed in other numbers of the series to change the language of the present. This is called Catechism No. 1, only for the sake of distinction. It is *the* Catechism. No. 2 is the same, with the addition of numerous Scripture proofs and illustrations printed side by side with the several questions and answers. No. 3 also repeats the Catechism in small type for reference, but it is designed for a series of instructions of a much higher grade.

These several Catechisms should be used in

consecutive order. In the first, the task of the scholar is to learn by heart the answers to the several questions so as to repeat them verbatim, either in numerical order, or when asked at random. This having been done, the next step of the scholar will be to commit to memory the Scripture proofs of the several answers as furnished in No. 2. The instructions of No. 3 will then be in place.

The Scripture references appended to the answers of the Catechism are merely illustrative, except when preceded by quotation-marks, which indicate that the text is literally copied. It will not be necessary for pupils to pay attention to them, unless their curiosity is excited to examine the fountains of religious truth.

Continued perseverance is essential to success in catechetical instruction. It is therefore earnestly recommended to parents, teachers, and ministers to review their pupils in the Catechism with frequency and regularity.

In every Sunday school there should be at least a monthly recitation of the whole Catechism, whatever other studies may be pursued.

When a school is properly prepared in advance, this recitation need not occupy more than fifteen minutes at a time. A variety of exercises may be adopted in order to render the recitation of the Catechism interesting, e. g.:—

1. *Recitation in concert*; in which the superintendent will ask the questions, and all the scholars respond in one voice.

2. *Recitation by classes.*—This may be practiced by asking the questions alternately of the classes in rotation, all the members of each class responding in concert; or by alternating the questions between the male and female classes; or, finally, by examining one or more of the male classes on a whole section, and then a corresponding number of female classes on the following section, and so on until the whole recitation is completed.

3. *Individual recitation.*—In order to have this style of recitation pass off with spirit, let none be allowed to participate in it who have not in their classes shown themselves perfectly familiar with every question and answer in the Catechism. Let those who are thus familiar be arranged in a row, either sitting or standing, and let the questions be rapidly but plainly asked of the several scholars in rotation, until the lesson is finished.

Whatever plan may be adopted for the recitation of the Catechism, parents, teachers, and ministers should cherish a common solicitude to have every scholar thoroughly taught in all the questions and answers.

From such a beginning it will be easy to progress with the Scripture proofs of the second series, and also with the enlarged instructions of the third.

The teaching and frequent recitation of the *baptismal covenant* found in the Appendix is particularly recommended. The recitation ought to be accompanied with suitable instructions on the nature and obligations of Christian baptism. The Lord's prayer and

the ten commandments are repeated in the Appendix for the convenience of separate study and recitation. Such portions of Scripture, including the beatitudes, ought to be kept constantly familiar to every mind.

The importance of teaching the young some forms of prayer to aid and guide their devotions, is obvious. The examples given in the Appendix are progressive in their style and length. Parents and teachers will use their discretion as to which should be recommended at any particular age.

Of the sweet and simple prayer at the end, it may be sufficient to say that some of the wisest and best of men have accustomed themselves to repeat it nightly, from early childhood to the very end of their earthly pilgrimage.

OFFICIAL APPROVAL.

THE undersigned, appointed by the Book Committee to examine the Catechism to be revised, according to the vote of the last General Conference, by the Editor of Sunday-school books, hereby report that we have, to the best of our ability, performed the duty assigned us. The manuscript submitted by the Editor of Sunday-school books was carefully considered, and, after mature reflection, we do not hesitate to approve of it, and recommend it for general use in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

E. HEDDING, N. BANGS, S. OLIN, J. HOLDICH.
NEW-YORK, *April 18th*, 1851.

ACTION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

THIS Catechism, and also Catechism No. 2, and specimens of No. 3, having been submitted for examination to the General Conference held in Boston, May, 1852, the same were referred to a select committee, composed of Revs. Elias Bowen, George Webber, and John H. Power.

After a careful examination, the committee reported in favor of the plan and execution of the Catechisms submitted; whereupon the Conference unanimously adopted the report of the committee, and ordered the immediate publication of Nos. 1 and 2, and the completion and issue of No. 3 on the plan proposed.

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CATECHISM.

I. GOD.

§ 1.—HIS NATURE AND ATTRIBUTES.

1. *Who made you?*

God.

2. *Who is God?*

The Creator of all things.

3. *What is God?*

An uncreated Spirit.

4. *Where is God?*

God is everywhere.

5. *What does God know?*

God is all-wise; he knoweth all things, even the thoughts of our hearts.—1 John iii, 20.

• 6. *What can God do?*

God is almighty; he doeth whatsoever he will.

7. *How long has God existed?*

God is eternal; he has lived always, and will live forever.

8. *What is the character of God?*

“God is love.”—1 John iv, 8.

9. *Is God holy?*

God is holy; he hateth all workers of iniquity.—Psa. v, 5.

10. *Is God merciful?*

“The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and plenteous in mercy.”—
[Psa. ciii, 8.]

11. *Is God just?*

The Lord is just, rewarding the righteous and punishing the wicked.

12. *Is God true?*

He is “the God of truth.”—Isa. lxxv, 16.
He “cannot lie.”—Titus i, 2.

§ 2.—THE PERSONS OF GOD.

13. *Are there more Gods than one?*

“There is none other God but one.”—
[1 Cor. viii, 4.]

14. *Are there more persons in the Godhead than one?*

There are three persons in the Godhead, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, and these three are ONE.—1 John v, 7.

15. *Is the Father God?*

“To us there is but one God, the Father.”—
[1 Cor. viii, 6.]

16. *Is the Son God?*

Christ “is over all, God blessed forever.”
He is the true God.—Rom. ix, 5; 1 John v, 20.

17. *Is the Holy Ghost God?*

The Holy Ghost is "the Eternal Spirit."—
[Heb. ix, 14.]

18. *In what name are Christians baptized?*

In the name of the Holy Trinity—the
Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.—
[Matt. xxviii, 19.]

II. OF CREATION.

§ 1.—THE WORLD.

19. *Can you repeat the first verse of the Bible?*

"In the beginning God created the heaven
and the earth."—Gen. i, 1.

20. *Does God preserve all things which he has
made?*

He upholdeth all things by the word of
his power.—Heb. i, 3.

§ 2.—MAN.

21. *Of what did God make man's body?*

"Of the dust of the ground."—Gen. ii, 7.

22. *How did God make man's soul?*

God "breathed into his nostrils the breath
of life, and man became a living soul."—
[Gen. ii, 7.]

23. *How do the soul and body differ?*

The body is material and mortal, the
soul is spiritual and immortal.

24. *Was man created good?*

He was; God created man in his own image.—Gen. i, 27.

25. *In what did this image of God consist?*

“In righteousness and true holiness.”—
[Eph. iv, 24.]

26. *What authority was given to man at the creation?*

God gave him dominion over every living thing.—Gen. i, 28.

27. *Where did God place our first parents?*

In the garden of Eden.—Gen. ii, 8.

28. *What law was given them?*

The law of perfect obedience.—Gen. ii, 16, 17.

III. MAN'S FALL AND SINFUL STATE.

§ 1.—SIN.

29. *Did our first parents continue holy and happy?*

They sinned against God, and fell into misery.—Gen. iii.

30. *What is sin?*

Any transgression of the law of God.—
[1 John iii, 4.]

31. *What was the sin of our first parents?*

Their eating of the forbidden fruit.

32. *By whom were they tempted to sin?*

By the devil, in the form of a serpent.—

[Gen. iii, 13; Rev. xx, 2.]

§ 2.—GUILT, PREVALENCE, AND CONSEQUENCES
OF SIN.

33. *What evil did their sin bring upon them?*

They lost the image of God, were driven out of Eden, and became subject to pain and death.

34. *Did their sin harm any beside themselves?*

“By the offense of one, judgment came upon all men to condemnation.”—Rom. v, 18.

35. *In what state are mankind born?*

In the image of fallen Adam, destitute of original righteousness.—Gen. v, 3.

36. *What are the miseries of this condition?*

All mankind being born in sin, are by nature under the wrath of God.

IV. SALVATION.

§ 1.—THE SOURCE AND GROUNDS OF SALVATION, VIZ.: THE LOVE OF GOD IN CHRIST AND REDEMPTION THROUGH CHRIST.

37. *Did God leave mankind in sin and misery?*

No; “God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoso-

ever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life.”—John iii, 16.

38. *What did the Son of God do to save sinners?*
He became man, lived, suffered, died, and rose again.

39. *How did he become man?*
Christ, though God, took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of man, having a human body and soul.

40. *What example does Christ's life afford us?*
An example of perfect goodness and holiness.

41. *What did Christ suffer for us?*
“He humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”—Phil. ii, 8.

42. *Why did Christ thus suffer and die?*
To offer to divine justice full atonement for the sins of the world.

43. *How are we benefited by Christ's resurrection?*
He rose for our justification, and ascended to the right hand of God, where he ever liveth to make intercession for us.—Rom. iv, 25;
Eph. i, 20;
Col. iii, 1; Heb. vii, 25.

44. *Did Christ make this atonement for all mankind?*
By the grace of God he tasted death for every man.—Heb. ii, 9.

for I am holy ;” and his promise is, that “if we confess our sins” he will “cleanse us from all unrighteousness.”—¹ Peter i, 16 ;
¹ Thess. iv, 3 ;
¹ John i, 9.

59. *What is implied in being a perfect Christian, or in being wholly sanctified ?*

Loving God with all our heart and soul, mind and strength, and our neighbor as ourselves.

60. *Is it possible for a justified or a sanctified Christian to fall from grace and perish ?*

It is ; for even the apostle Paul feared lest, after having preached to others, he himself should be a castaway.—¹ Cor. ix, 27.

61. *How shall we guard against the danger of falling from grace ?*

By watchfulness, prayer, and a life of faith in the Son of God.

V. THE MEANS OF GRACE.

§ 1.—THE CHURCH AND MINISTRY.

62. *What are the principal means of grace ?*

The Church, the sacraments, the word of God, and prayer.

63. *In what two forms does the Church of God exist ?*

The visible and the invisible.

64. *What is the visible Church?*

The visible Church of Christ is a congregation of faithful men, in which the pure word of God is preached and the sacraments duly administered according to Christ's ordinance.—Acts ii, 42; Matt. xvi, 18;
Eph. v, 27.

65. *What is the invisible Church?*

The whole body of God's true people in every period of time.

66. *Ought not all persons where the gospel is preached, to become believers in Christ and members of the Church?*

They ought; in order to have a visible union with Christ, the Head of the Church, and communion with his people.

[Eph. v, 23; John xvii, 21; 1 Cor. xii, 20.

67. *Who are to preach the word of God and administer the sacraments?*

Faithful men, called of God and set apart by the Church to the office and work of the ministry.—Heb. v, 4; Acts xiii, 2, 3; 1 Tim. iv, 14.

§ 2.—THE SACRAMENTS.

68. *How many sacraments has Christ ordained in his Church?*

Two; baptism and the Lord's supper.—

[Matt. xxviii, 19; 1 Cor. xi, 23-26.

69. *What is a sacrament?*

An outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace.

(1.) *Baptism.*

70. *What is the outward sign in baptism?*

Water, applied in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.—

[John iii, 5; Matt. xxviii, 19.]

71. *What is the inward grace signified in baptism?*

A death unto sin and a new birth unto righteousness.

72. *What advantages are secured to baptized persons?*

They are admitted to the visible Church of Christ; their relation to him as the Mediator of the new covenant, and their title to the spiritual blessings thereto belonging, are solemnly confirmed.

(2.) *The Lord's Supper.*

73. *Why was the sacrament of the Lord's supper ordained?*

For the continual remembrance of the sacrifice of Christ's death, and of the benefits that we thereby receive.—^{1 Cor. xi, 23-26.}

74. *What is the outward sign of the Lord's supper?*

Bread and wine, received according to Christ's command.

75. *What is the inward grace of this sacrament?*

The communion of the body and blood

of Christ, whereby we are reminded of his sacrificial death, and spiritually strengthened to do HIS will. .

§ 3.—THE WORD OF GOD AND PRAYER.

76. *Whence do we derive all correct knowledge of religious truth and duty?*

From the Holy Bible.

77. *What is the Bible?*

It is the revelation of divine truth, and the record of God's will.

78. *What is the only sufficient rule of a Christian's faith and practice?*

The word of God, as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments.

79. *How should we use the Scriptures?*

We should seriously and diligently study God's holy word with prayer, that we may understand, believe, and practice the same.—John v, 39.

80. *What is prayer?*

Prayer is the offering up of our desires unto God in the name of Christ.

81. *With what should prayer be always accompanied?*

With humble confession of sin, with

heartly thanksgiving for God's mercies, and sincere faith in his promises.

82. *Where should we offer up our prayers?*

Publicly in the house of God, and privately in our families and in our closets.

83. *What special example of prayer is given us in Scripture?*

The Lord's prayer.

84. *Can you repeat the Lord's prayer?*

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread: and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil: for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

VI. GOD'S LAW.

DUTIES TO GOD AND MAN.

85. *What does God require of man?*

Obedience to his revealed will.

86. *What is the rule of our obedience?*

The moral law.

87. *Where is the moral law given?*

In the ten commandments.—Exod. xx.

88. *What is the first commandment?*

Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

89. *What is the second commandment?*

Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

90. *What is the third commandment?*

Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

91. *What is the fourth commandment?*

Remember the Sabbath-day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the

Sabbath of the Lord thy God : in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates : for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day : wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath-day, and hallowed it.

92. *What is the fifth commandment ?*

Honor thy father and thy mother ; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

93. *What is the sixth commandment ?*

Thou shalt not kill.

94. *What is the seventh commandment ?*

Thou shalt not commit adultery.

95. *What is the eighth commandment ?*

Thou shalt not steal.

96. *What is the ninth commandment ?*

Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

97. *What is the tenth commandment ?*

Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant,

nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.

98. *What is our Saviour's summary of God's commandments?*

He said: "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."—Matt. xxii, 37-40.

99. *How does our Saviour explain the commandments?*

He teaches that they not only forbid sin in act, but in thought.—Matt. v, 21, 22, 27, 28.

100. *What is our Lord's precept, commonly called the golden rule?*

"Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them."—
[Matt. vii, 12.]

101. *Can any man be saved by keeping the law?*

No; "By the deeds of the law shall no flesh be justified."—Rom. iii, 20.

102. *What then is the use of the law?*

It serves to show men their need of Christ; "For by the law is the knowledge of sin."
[Rom. iii, 20; Gal. iii, 19.]

103. *Are all Christians under obligation to keep the law?*

Yes; they are “not without law to God, but under the law to Christ.”—1 Cor. ix, 21.

VII. OF DEATH, JUDGMENT, AND ETERNITY.

104. *Do we remain long in this world?*

No; life is short and uncertain, and we all must die.—Job xiv, 10.

105. *Is it not a fearful thing to die?*

It is to all but true Christians.

106. *Why should not true Christians fear to die?*

Because the sting of death is removed, and they know that they shall go to heaven.

107. *How long will the bodies of men lie in the grave?*

Until the last day, when Christ shall come to raise the dead for judgment.

108. *Will all the dead be raised?*

“There shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.”—
[Acts xxiv, 15; John v, 28, 29.]

109. *Will all men be judged at the last day?*

“We must all appear before the judgment-seat of Christ; that *every one* may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.”—2 Cor. v, 10.

110. *What sentence will Christ pronounce on the wicked?*

“Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels.”—Matt. xxv, 41.

111. *What will he say to the righteous?*

“Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.”—Matt. xxv, 34.

112. *What will then take place?*

The world shall be destroyed by fire; and the wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into life eternal.—Matt. xxv, 46; 2 Pet. iii, 10.

APPENDIX.

THE BEATITUDES.

BLESSED are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled.

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peace-makers: for they shall be called the children of God.

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.—

[Matt. v, 3-10.]

II. THE LORD'S PRAYER.

OUR Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. *Amen.*

III. THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.

I. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

II. Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and showing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

III. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain: for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

IV. Remember the Sabbath-day to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maid-servant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath-day, and hallowed it.

V. Honor thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VI. Thou shalt not kill.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his man-servant, nor his maid-servant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.

IV. THE APOSTLES' CREED.

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

V. BAPTISMAL COVENANT.

I RENOUNCE the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the sinful desires of the flesh, so that I will not follow nor be led by them.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

Having been baptized in this faith, I will obediently keep God's holy will and commandments, and walk in the same all the days of my life, God being my helper.

* By the holy catholic Church is meant the Church of God in general.

EXAMPLES OF PRAYER FOR THE YOUNG.

MORNING PRAYER.

ALMIGHTY GOD, my heavenly Father, I thank thee that thou hast taken care of me the past night, and that I am alive and well this morning. Save me, O God, from evil all this day; and may I love and serve thee always. Bestow on me, I pray thee, every good thing which I need for my body and soul; assist me by thy Holy Spirit to do thy will: make me always afraid to offend thee, and let me live in thy fear and die in thy favor, and at last be saved in heaven, for Christ's sake. *Amen.*

EVENING PRAYER.

O LORD GOD, who knowest all things, thou seest me by night as well as by day. I pray thee, for Christ's sake, forgive me whatever I have done amiss this day, and keep me safe all night. Bless, I beseech thee, all my friends;* do good to them at all times and in all places, and help me always to serve them in love. And when I have done thy will here, by thy grace assisting me, may I be fully prepared for death and the world to come, through Christ my blessed Saviour and Redeemer. *Amen.*

MORNING PRAYER.

O LORD, I give thee thanks, that thou hast kept me during the night, and brought me to see another morning. Help me to pass this day in thy fear, and to remember that thine eye is always upon me; that thou hearest all I say, seest all I do, and knowest all that is in my thoughts. I confess before thee, O God, that I am a sinful creature. I have often been foolish and disobedient, and I deserve to be punished for my sins. But thou, O Lord, art merciful; thou hast promised pardon to those who repent and believe in Jesus Christ.

* Here mention father and mother, and others.

Be merciful to me, I pray thee, and pardon my transgressions. Give me true and deep repentance for my sins, and cause me to hate every evil way. Create in me a clean heart, and renew a right spirit within me. Help me to believe with my whole heart, in Jesus Christ, and to commit my soul to thy mercy through him. O righteous Father, grant me thy Holy Spirit to dwell within me. May he instruct, sanctify, and preserve me to the kingdom of Jesus! Be thou gracious to all my friends and enemies, and have mercy on all those who are dead in sin, and save them with me and with all for whom I should pray, for Jesus Christ's sake. *Amen.*

EVENING PRAYER.

O God, I bow down before thee, and would lift up my soul in thanksgiving for all the favors of another day. I implore thy tender mercies in the forgiveness of all my sins of thought, word, or deed, since the morning. Pardon me, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ, who died upon the cross for sinners, and adopt me into thy family as one of thy children. May thy Spirit be poured down upon me! May he shed thy love abroad in my heart, and fill my mind with all good thoughts! May he teach me to love thy word, thy people, and thy house! May he help me to honor my parents, my minister, and my teachers, and to profit from their instructions! May he make me wise unto salvation, and prepare me for eternity! If I die young, may I be found ready, being washed from my sins in Jesus' blood! I ask the same mercies for all my friends. Watch over us during this night. Preserve and bless us, and let no evil come near our dwelling. May we be refreshed by rest, and awake in the morning to thy service! Grant, likewise, O blessed Lord, that when days and nights with us have ended, we may sleep in Jesus, and awake in the morning of the resurrection, to join the redeemed of the Lord, and spend an eternal day in thy presence, service, and praise, for his sake! *Amen.*

MORNING PRAYER FOR THE LORD'S DAY,

To be added to the usual Morning Prayer.

SUFFER me not, O Lord, to waste this thy day in sin and folly; but let me worship thee with much delight. May I love thy word and thy house. Teach me to know more of thee, and to serve thee better than I have ever done before. To this end may I love my sabbath school, and diligently improve all my opportunities to become wise unto salvation. Enable me, O Lord, to seek thee while thou mayest be found, and to call upon thee while thou art near. Thus, my Father in heaven, may I be fitted, through the merits and grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, to reign with thee in thy blessed kingdom, and to thy great name shall be the glory, world without end. *Amen.*

EVENING PRAYER FOR THE LORD'S DAY,

To be added to the usual Evening Prayer.

O most gracious God, let me never forget the many good things that I have heard this day; but let them abide in my heart so that I may amend my life, and be able to give a good account of all my privileges at the judgment of the great day. May I have a heart to pity the many heathen that have no Sabbath, and a disposition to labor and pray that the gospel may be preached to all the world. Finally, when time shall end, may I be admitted to the Sabbath of rest in heaven, and give glory to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost forever. *Amen.*

A SHORT PRAYER ON RETIRING TO REST.

Now I lay me down to sleep,
I pray the Lord my soul to keep;
And if I die before I wake,
I pray the Lord my soul to take.

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